

## RECREATION FACILITIES

Recreation facilities are needed in all cities as man of today is spending more of his time at leisure activity than his counterpart of yesterday.

Recreation facilities are generally classified into two categories -- active and passive. Active facilities include neighborhood playgrounds and city-wide facilities such as swimming pools and golf courses. Passive facilities accompany the active facilities and include areas for walking and just sitting. Active recreation facilities provide opportunity for exercise and exposure to the sun which is especially necessary for children. Passive facilities help to relieve the pent-up nervous strain of urban living and offer "breathing areas" in densely urbanized areas of the city.

The responsibility of providing and operating recreation facilities in Thomasville rests with the Recreation Commission and the Recreation Department. Seven parks are currently maintained by the Department. They are Memorial, Carver, Payne, Wallcliff, Kings, Doak and Amazon. There is also a Civic Center Building which is an all-purpose structure for indoor recreation.

Table 5 is a list of the parks with respective acreages and available facilities. Notice that they are listed according to the area they serve. The locations of these parks are shown on Map 6. From this information it might be thought that Thomasville is served with a good number of parks, well-located. This is not necessarily true. On close inspection of Map 6 it can be seen that the southeast quadrant does not have a neighborhood recreation area and is not close to existing city-wide parks. This superficial analysis points out the need for added recreation facilities in this area. The practice of the past has been to develop a few large outlying parks and ignore the needs of those who live far from these parks and can use them only infrequently.